

GREENBELT News Review

An Independent Newspaper

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FEBRUARY 2, 2017



PHOTO BY INGRID COWAN HASS

Angella Foster of alight dance theater works with Greenbelt Elementary second graders, using dance to teach an astronomy lesson.

Moving with the Stars

by Ingrid Cowan Hass

Rather than using a science textbook to teach astronomy to second graders at Greenbelt Elementary School (GES), students became the Perseus constellation. For the past few weeks, local dancer Angella Foster and her alight dance theater led “movement labs” as part of the school’s commitment to arts integration, visiting each second grade classroom three times. Through dance, students learned academic vocabulary such as rotate, constellation and galaxy and the position of the stars in the Big and Little Dippers.

Lindsey Volk is the arts integration lead teacher at GES and a second grade teacher whose classroom was visited. She runs bi-weekly workshops for teachers after school to help them learn ideas for integrating visual arts, dance, puppetry, music and poetry into their lessons.

“The students’ comprehension of the narrative of Perseus was fully evident by the way they

were able to dance out the full plot of the myth. The level of student engagement, their understanding of the characters, their ability to re-tell the content and use scientific vocabulary to talk about constellations, truly blew me away,” she said. “Angella’s program is a perfect example of the use of the arts as a teaching tool. I am a firm believer that art can be integrated into any concept that is taught. Doing so in my classroom has proved to increase student engagement and success in learning the standards. Providing these types of opportunities allows students with different backgrounds, talents, interests and learning styles to succeed. Art requires the kind of creative thinking that inevitably unlocks a deeper understanding, generates questions and creates new possibilities.”

This program was sponsored by The Family Fund for the

See STARS, page 7

Michael McLaughlin, Greenbelt’s Consummate Public Servant

by Jill Connor

Michael McLaughlin is known to city residents and his colleagues as a good listener, a strong leader and a stabilizing force in Greenbelt. His retirement from the position of city manager, which he has held since July, 1996, marks a period of the city’s history during which there was expansion of city services, improvement to the workforce and upgrading of the facilities. As Mayor Emmett Jordan said, “The city is celebrating its 80th year and he has been here for 37. He literally worked his way through the ranks and served the city so well, for so long. It certainly is a bittersweet moment. He is an amazing man.”

Early Years

McLaughlin was born and raised in the suburbs of Philadelphia. He credits those early years watching Congressman Bob Edgar with inspiring his passion for public administration. “That was when I first became aware of how government could make things better for people,” he said. He studied at Saint Joseph’s University, graduating in 1977. He completed his graduate degree in public administration at George Washington University in 1979 and had an internship in Rockville while in school. From there he earned his first position as an

administrative assistant in 1979, an entry-level position in Greenbelt that McLaughlin referred to as being for “a city manager wannabe.”

When talking about why he moved to Greenbelt at that point, even though it was not a requirement of the job, McLaughlin said, “I always felt it was important to be a part of the community because you are going to learn stuff about the community that you wouldn’t learn in your day job.”

McLaughlin said he never left the city through those 37 years because “opportunities presented themselves to me” from a career standpoint and “Greenbelt is just a wonderful place to live and in my case, raise a family. I never looked forward to moving from town to town. So my reality of moving up the career ladder by staying in the same community made me incredibly fortunate.” His wife Leslie said he also stayed because “He fell in love with the history and the people of the city.”



PHOTO BY JILL CONNOR

Michael McLaughlin

What is a City Manager?

As noted in the book, Greenbelt, Maryland: A Living Legacy of the New Deal, in 1937 Greenbelt was the first city in the state to implement the city manager/council form of government. Typically, this system is more often used in larger municipalities. The position of city manager is described by the Maryland Municipal League, which says:

See MCLAUGHLIN, page 8

Greenbelt News Review Has Big 80th Year Birthday Plans

by Cathie Meetre

November of this year will mark the 80th anniversary of the founding of this newspaper. Since 1937, every week has seen an issue – through war, through storms, through unrest and turmoil. The paper takes its role seriously as an intrinsic and essential part of the fabric of this community. Correspondents frequently note that the existence of the paper was a key factor in their decision to live here. “With such a paper,” they reasoned, “how could this NOT be a thriving community?”

Documentary

The paper is sponsoring two birthday initiatives. The first, and most immediate, is a documentary presentation about the history of the paper. Covering the period from the paper’s inception as a mimeographed and stapled newsletter, the documentary will be anchored around the controversy of the paper’s libel suit and the eventual landmark freedom of the press decision in the Supreme Court. A key theme is the internal development of the paper and the personalities and skills of the staff that have supported

it over the years. Greenbelt’s own professional videographer and producer, Susan Gervasi, will produce and direct the film, and she and husband Frank are already shooting interviews and background footage. Projected to be an hour in length, the show is expected to premier at this year’s Utopia Film Festival and there are hopes of it scaling the dizzying heights of local public television stations. Move over Sundance.

Archive

Less glitzy, perhaps, but crucially long term and comprehensive, is the initiative to create a high quality, indexed archive of the newspaper from 1937 through into the future. The current online archive is of patchy quality and the physical papers themselves are deteriorating rapidly because newsprint is highly acidic and browns and crumbles quickly. Time is of the essence.

Newspaper staff had been investigating possible avenues for digitization, looking at methods and costs but had little internal expertise. Thanks to the advice of Anne Marigza, a Greenbelt

resident and conservator at the Holocaust Museum, the paper contacted the University of Maryland’s libraries. To the surprise of the paper, it turned out that UMD had already applied for and won a grant from the National Endowment for the Humanities to digitize the first 10 years of the Cooperator – the News Review’s initial name. UMD, in turn, was equally surprised to hear from us – the Cooperator had ended in the early fifties – but here it was, alive and well. Serendipity. It was an easy step to put heads together and figure out a path forward toward the eventual digitization of the entire corpus of the paper. Although the first phase is already funded, the road to the remaining years will almost certainly require a mixture of grant funding and private initiatives.

These two objectives are expensive. The paper feels that both play an important role in guaranteeing the long-term preservation of the record of this unique community’s formative years and an invaluable resource showing the social history of several

See 80TH YEAR, page 11

What Goes On

Saturday, February 4

2 to 3:30 p.m., Great Rain Barrel Kick-off, Community Center

Sunday, February 5

1 to 4 p.m., Artful Afternoon, Community Center

Monday, February 6

7 p.m., Greenbelt City Council – Special Meeting, Municipal Building

8 p.m., Council Worksession, City Manager Update, Municipal Building. Live on Verizon 21, Comcast 71 and streaming at greenbeltnmd.gov/municipaltv

Tuesday, February 7

2:30 to 4:30 p.m., Cooking Matters, Community Center (Classes on Tuesdays, see city ad for details.)

7 p.m., Public Safety Advisory Committee, Community Center

7 p.m., Advisory Committee on Trees, Public Works Facility

7 p.m., Arts Advisory Board, Community Center

Wednesday, February 8

7:30 p.m., Advisory Planning Board, Community Center

7:30 p.m., Zero Waste Circle, Public Works

8 p.m., Council Worksession with Friends of the Old Greenbelt Theatre, Community Center

Letters to the Editor

Ethics Investigation

Colin Byrd’s letter concerning the process used by the Greenbelt City Council to award a no-bid contract to Taser for body cameras (January 28, 2017, Getting Ripped Off While Lollygagging) is extremely disturbing and warrants an ethics investigation. We expect honesty and integrity from our local government. A hint of corruption by our local government is very unsettling. I strongly suggest that any council member who accepted any gratuity from the Taser company explain that behavior, and I hope that no-bid contracts are never awarded again or can be justified by unusual circumstances. An ethics investigation is necessary to clarify the actions of the Greenbelt City Council on this matter or it will continue to be tainted by this issue.

Lois Rosado

Fire Lane Ticket

My friend lives in 5 Court of Ridge Road. She returned home on Friday from the hospital after having knee replacement surgery. Sunday, she was happy to have somebody pick up some groceries for her and deliver them to her house as she is not able to do this yet. Her friend parked his car behind hers inside the court and was gone 10 minutes max to deliver the groceries. Upon returning to the car, there was a ticket for \$250 for blocking the fire lane. That is a hefty fine and this person could ill afford that fee. It would have been nice if the officer had given a warning – but unfortunately the Greenbelt spirit was lacking in this case. How disappointing it is when somebody must be punished for doing a good deed! However, I’m sure that \$250 fine helped the officer reach his quota for the month.

Alice Murray

Pepco and OGT

We read with alarm the story of Pepco’s misadministration of the Old Greenbelt Theatre’s electricity account, which resulted in the utility backbiling the theater for over \$18,000. The apparent fact that, under its tariff, Pepco

can pass along the costs of its mistake is disturbing. More disturbing, however, is the fact that such a mistake by Pepco can pose an existential threat to the community resource that is the Old Greenbelt Theatre.

For an example of the value that the theater brings to Greenbelt, one need only look to its programming this week, where guests from Goddard Space Flight Center will speak after screenings of the terrific film Hidden Figures, which tells the oft-ignored story of the contributions of a group of African American female mathematicians to NASA’s effort in the “space race” with the Soviet Union.

This sort of additional educational opportunity only comes about thanks to the hard work of the theater staff in securing speakers (and of course thanks to the speakers themselves), and are not found at larger, less community-oriented theaters. A similar example of the theater’s community focus was its presentation of the film Flipper last Saturday. Executive Director Caitlin McGrath allowed us to distribute literature on dolphin captivity before the screening, showed a brief trailer on the issue and arranged for a marine mammologist to take questions on dolphin captivity and research after the film.

The Old Greenbelt Theatre is a treasure, and we hope that council will continue to be firm in its discussions with Pepco on the matter of the back charges, and do whatever is necessary to ensure that the theater is able to continue to contribute to building a vibrant Roosevelt Center. We also encourage fellow residents to support the theater by checking out a show and joining the Friends of Old Greenbelt Theatre.

Barbara Glick and
Josh Hamlin

Thanks

I hardly know how to express my sincere thanks for all the prayers, cards, letters, emails and words of encouragement I received after my disastrous fall while visiting my daughter Lisa in California for Christmas. I never knew I had so many

friends! After weeks of rehab in California, I am now back in Maryland and hope to be home in Greenbelt very soon.

To my senior friends, a caution. Please be very, very careful when walking, especially in unfamiliar surroundings. A tiny misstep can cause your whole life to change in the blink of an eye, as mine did.

Thanks again to everyone. I now appreciate more than ever how blessed I am to have my wonderful family and such good friends!

Kathleen McFarland

Greenbelt Pantry Thanks Shoppers

We thank all the food shoppers who purchased food bags from the Food Bag Donation Program.

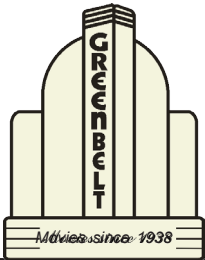
The response was overwhelming. On behalf of the pantry staff a great big thank you for Mr. Edward V.J. Putens for your most generous monetary gift.

We salute Vicki Focht, St. Hugh’s Lady of Charity, who helps by way of S.O.M.E., (So Others Might Eat) the poor and homeless of our nation’s capital. For years Vicki Focht enjoins with others the interfaith approach of service. Thank you, Vicki!

The Pantry met the holidays of Thanksgiving, Christmas and New Year’s in great style. Our many thanks to you for such great food.

Happy Valentine’s Day,
Solange Hess
Chair of the Pantry

See LETTERS, page 4



Old Greenbelt Theatre
129 Centerway
301-329-2034
www.greenbelttheatre.org

Members always \$6.50!
Adults \$9, Senior/Student \$8, Members \$6.50, Kids \$6

All shows before 5 PM:
Adults \$7, Members \$6.50, Kids \$5
OC = Open Captions
CC = Closed Captions

SHOWTIMES
Feb 3 – Feb 9

HIDDEN FIGURES
(PG) (CC) (127 mins)
Fri. 5:15, 8:00 PM
Sat. 2:30, 5:15, 8:00 PM
Sun. 2:30, 5:15, 8:00 PM
Mon. 5:15, 8:00 PM
Tues. 5:15, 8:00 PM
Wed. 2:30, 5:15, 8:00 PM
Thurs. 5:15, 8:00 PM

ON THE WATERFRONT
(1954) (108 mins) – FREE!
Mon. 1:00 PM



PHOTO BY GEOFFREY WALTERS

Old Greenbelt Theatre with Christmas lights

The Old Curmudgeon



"I forgot to put a love note in the News Review!"

But you still have time to get your love note in for the February 9 issue. See ad on page 11.

Cartoon by Izzy Parker originally published on February 4, 1999.



LOVE NOTES
are coming!



See ad on page 11

Greenbelt News Review

AN INDEPENDENT NEWSPAPER

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Greenbelt East: Contact Condominium Homeowner's Association

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BOARD OF DIRECTORS

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Business Manager: Mary Halford

DEADLINES: Letters, Articles and Classified Ads—8 p.m. Tuesday. Display Ads 4 p.m. Monday, 8 p.m. Tuesday if camera ready. Materials for publication may be mailed to address above, deposited in our box in the Co-op grocery store (by 7 p.m. Tuesday) or brought to our office in the Community Center, 15 Crescent Road, during office hours. Mail subscriptions—\$45/year.

Greenbelt Community Center at 15 Crescent Rd.
OFFICE HOURS: Monday 2 - 4 p.m., Tuesday 2 - 4, 6 -10 p.m.

Community Events

Artful Afternoon Sunday February 5

The Greenbelt Recreation Department Arts Program welcomes visitors of all ages to an Artful Afternoon on Sunday, February 5 from 1 to 4 p.m. Reservations are not required. Artful Afternoons take place at the Community Center. Times vary for individual activities.

At 3 p.m., enjoy a free performance of The Hollow Stump by Greenbelt's own Beech Tree Puppets. Seven very different animals seek shelter from the winter cold and snow. Adapted from the popular folktale The Mitten, this story celebrates community as the animals learn to share one space. Performed with felted rod puppets, the show also includes live acoustic music by creators Ingrid and Ole Hass.

Come early to make a mixed media wreath with artist Karla Lawrence in a free craft workshop from 1 to 3 p.m. Materials will be provided, but participants are welcome to bring natural items, keepsakes and other embellishments that they would like to incorporate.

From 1 to 4 p.m. enjoy a variety of additional activities at your leisure. See the new art gallery exhibit featuring paintings by Mike McConnell. Each composition invites the viewer on a journey of discovery through a dense and vibrant landscape inspired by the artist's travels in California. His bright palette and flattened rendering style reflect both the influence of modern art and his long career as an accomplished illustrator.

Meet the Community Center's artists in residence at an open house and sale from 1 to 4 p.m. Find beautiful and affordable paintings, prints, ceramics, fiber arts, funky jewelry, assemblages and more.

See the Greenbelt Museum's current exhibit The Knowing Hands that Carve This Stone: The New Deal Art of Lenore Thomas Straus. Straus is best known locally as the creator of the iconic Mother and Child statue in Roosevelt Center and the impressive bas reliefs on the façade of the Community Center.

For more information about City of Greenbelt art programs, visit greenbeltnmd.gov/arts or call 301-397-2208. Arts programs are sponsored in part by the Maryland State Arts Council.



The Hollow Stump puppets

Computer Club

The Greenbelt Computer Club will hold its monthly meeting on Thursday, February 9, from 7 to 8:30 p.m. at the Community Center in Room 112. Everyone is welcome to the discussions about the latest in computers, tablets and consumer electronics. Basic troubleshooting advice for Windows computers and some for Apple iPad and iPhone is available.

Arts Advisory Board Meets February 7

The Greenbelt Arts Advisory Board will meet on Tuesday, February 7 at 7 p.m. at the Community Center Art Gallery, Room 112. Agenda items for this meeting will include a review of applications from Greenbelt city organizations seeking in-kind support from the city in fiscal year 2018 as official Recognition Groups and discussion of a petition from the Greenbelt Concert Band to the Greenbelt City Council requesting an exemption from city operating grant fundraising requirements. For additional information, contact Nicole DeWald, staff liaison, at ndewald@greenbeltnmd.gov or 240-542-2057.

Explore Manifesting Dreams with Reiki

Explorations Unlimited welcomes R. "Nia" Kusske on Friday, February 10 at 1 p.m.. Discover the key components to manifesting a new life and how to put them into practice. Work together with her as she leads attendees through her journey of manifesting, and learn how to incorporate her techniques into daily living.

Kusske is a Reiki master with over 20 years of experience. She is adept at distance healing and at manifestation. She has successfully used Reiki to help manifest her dreams of quitting her job, moving onto a sailboat and cruising the East Coast, and of traveling to various exotic locations.

Kusske has taught Reiki, visualization and energy work, and performed Reiki and energy healing on both the east and west coasts of the United States, Mexico, Ireland, Portugal, England, Wales, both the British and U. S. Virgin Islands, and in Morocco. She taught her intuitive healing techniques in prison systems in Oregon and Washington State for 13 years.

Explorations Unlimited is held every Friday beginning at 1 p.m. at the Community Center. This presentation will be held in Room 114. Everyone is welcome to attend and questions are always encouraged. Call 301-397-2208 for more information.



Menu for Senior Nutrition Program

The Senior Nutrition Food and Friendship program provides lunches for seniors Monday through Friday at the Community Center beginning at noon. Meals must be reserved by 11 a.m. two days ahead so that enough food is ordered. Call 301-397-2208 ext. 4215.

All meals include margarine, coffee or tea and skim milk. Menus for the week of February 6 are as follows:

Monday, February 6: Grilled beef strips with gravy, whipped potatoes, kale, wheat bread, sliced peaches, grape juice.

Tuesday, February 7: Garlic rosemary chicken, cut yams, broccoli, wheat roll, diced pears, apple juice.

Wednesday, February 8: Cream of tomato soup with crackers, chicken salad sandwich on a Kaiser roll, mixed green salad with Italian dressing, fresh fruit, apple juice.

Thursday, February 9: Pork roast with apple glaze, scalloped potatoes, green beans, wheat roll, fresh fruit, cranberry juice.

Friday, February 10: BBQ chicken, collard greens, potato salad, cornbread muffin, peach crisp, grape juice.

Golden Age Club

by Bunny Fitzgerald

The Golden Age Club is busy celebrating 60 years of being an active social club.

The 60th anniversary luncheon will be held on Wednesday, April 26 at the Holiday Inn in College Park. Dues must be paid by then.

George Mathews, police liaison, will be speaking at the club on February 8. The topic will be Winter Safety: Candles, Heaters and Harmful Gases.

Remember: When the schools are closed because of bad weather, there is no club meeting. Safety on the roads for all of us is important.

America is great. We have lots of chocolate, ice cream and Tweets!

Scarface Continues Through Sunday at GAC

The play, A Visit From Scarface continues at the Greenbelt Arts Center, running Fridays and Saturdays at 8 p.m. and Sundays at 2 p.m. through February 5. The play was reviewed by Jim Link in the Greenbelt News Review of January 26 on page 7.

City Notes

Animal Control reported a fox was transported to the county for rabies testing and two bunnies were surrendered by the owner.

Horticulture/Parks crew removed numerous trees and branches throughout the city downed by heavy winds.

Forty-one senior citizens traveled to Toby's Dinner Theater in Columbia January 25 to see Show Boat. Channel 4 was there filming and interviewing. Two of the Greenbelt groups were interviewed and a report on Howard County's Hidden Dinner Theater Gem aired on the 6 p.m. news. Part of Greenbelt resident Robin Olson's interview was on, as were some shots of the Greenbelt group. The clip is posted at nbcwashington.com/entertainment/the-scene/Howard-County_s-Hidden-Dinner-Theater_Washington-DC-411819396.html.

Dynamic Community Governance Session

Learn the basics of dynamic community governance at a free one-hour session on Sunday, February 12 at 1 p.m. For those who have had training in dynamic community governance, join in on a community peer learning circle from 2 to 4 p.m. on February 12. Ask questions about implementing it in an organization, network with others and learn new skills. Share lessons learned with others. To register, email Aileen at Aileen@dynamic-governance.org.

Registration is required for either event. The venue will be identified upon registration.

Events at MakerSpace

This week at the MakerSpace, local artist Ola Betiku is holding a new video production meetup on Saturday from 2 to 4 p.m.

Thursday, February 2: Coding Club from 7 to 8 p.m.

Friday, February 3: First Friday Game Night from 6 to 9 p.m.

Saturday, February 4: Destination Imagination from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. and Video Production Meetup from 2 to 4 p.m.

Sunday, February 5: Animation Meetup from 2 to 4 p.m.

Tuesday, February 7: Chess Club from 7 to 9 p.m.

Wednesday, February 8: Fiber Fans from 6 to 9 p.m.

GHI Notes

Thursday, February 2, 7:30 p.m., Board of Directors Meeting, Board Room

Saturday, February 4, 11 a.m., Pre-purchase Orientation, Board Room

Wednesday, February 8, 7:30 p.m., Architectural Review Committee Meeting, Board Room

Thursday, February 9, 6:30 p.m., Investment Committee Meeting, Board Room

Thursday, February 9, 7:30 p.m., Finance Committee Meeting, Board Room

Friday, February 10, office closed. Emergency maintenance service available at 301-474-6011.

New Deal Art Show

There will be an art reception Sunday, February 5, at New Deal Café from 3 to 5 p.m. to meet the current artist, Alan Parker, and explore his art work. Parker has been interested in art from a young age, but did not tap into his creative side until college. His work is colorful and unique. Light refreshments will be served.

More Community Events
are located throughout
the paper.

Greenbelt Arts Center DON'T MISS

A VISIT FROM SCARFACE



Feb 3, 4, 10, 11 at 8PM
Feb 5 at 2PM

Ticket prices: \$22 General Admission,
\$20 Students/Seniors/Military,
\$12 Youth (12 and under with adult)

COMING SOON

The 25th Annual Putnam County Spelling Bee – Mar 3 - 25 –
Directed by Jeffrey Lesniak, Choreographed by Rikki Howie Lacewell
Tribute – Apr 21 - May 13 – Directed by Gayle Negri
She Speaks – June 2 - 18 – Guest Production from the Rude Mechanicals

For information & reservations, call 301-441-8770 or
email: info@greenbeltartscenter.org or
BOOK TICKETS ONLINE at www.greenbeltartscenter.org

Letters continued

Speaking to Our Elders

Recently I have found it easy to pair letters to the News Review concerning the proposed development at Lakeside North Apartments with the 80th birthday of our beloved Greenbelt. So at sundown I went out to the woods to visit elders of our community. I hiked to the giant tree I found last spring. Looking up, I said “Without question you are the grandmother of this community. I look around and I see your century-old brothers and sisters kissing the sky with you.”

“You know”, some say to me, “talking about the woods and a big tree is not enough anymore. You need to talk about ‘economic development.’” I tenderly put my hand on the tree and said to the elders, “You are enough! You’re enough for me and many folks who love every bit of what Greenbelt is; but it’s really scary to think about what ‘economic development’ might do to you. Someday, will you and your brothers and sisters be a pile heap on orange, stripped earth? They could ‘economic develop’ our town right out of existence. All of a sudden there’s this under-the-radar chatter. ‘Out with the old. In with the new. Build bigger. Build taller.’ Where’s this coming from? Even though you’ve stood here a hundred years before any of us were born, even though you are the true matriarch of this community, I see survey flags at the foot of your grandeur.”

Looking to the east of town, I began to think about the Sunrise Forest Preserve in Greenbelt East. I speak to the elders again. “There was a proposed development for your eastern forest. It was the citizens’ intervention of Greenbelt East residents who made that a Forest Preserve.” I looked toward Franklin Park and remembered many Earth Day cleanups where citizens showed up to beautify Indian Creek. I recalled the caring look on their faces. People do really care. I said to the elders: “Greenbelters have written passionate letters to the editor in favor of your ongoing wilderness. You can see they love you. There has also been a gathering at the fire station, folks signing a petition; hundreds milling in for hours to learn how to save the character of Greenbelt. The Sentinel paper describes Greenbelt citizens as the ‘Lorax of the woods.’ You know everybody’s got a Standing Rock, Ancient One.” I looked at the lights of Greenbelt through the distant trees. “We will stand like a rock for you. We know that Greenbelt is a shining diamond in the dark night of urban sprawl. The people are speaking up. There is a mysterious silence from city council but we will be meeting with them soon. We revere our history here.



Catholic Community of Greenbelt MASS
Sundays 10 A.M.
Municipal Building
ALL ARE WELCOME.

There’s a museum dedicated to preserving our history. The Roosevelt administration’s implementation of Green Towns has served us well. Green space surrounding affordable housing has created a unified, livable community. The Green Belt is not just conceptual. It has earth and dirt and worms and fur and wings. How much does our legacy matter? We have as much stake in our historical legacy as Ellicott City or Harper’s Ferry. We are the New Deal, alive and vibrant to this day.

There is nothing more contrary, more opposite of who we are and where we’ve come from than tearing down original Green Belt woods for a luxury high-rise! The Great Chiefs of Council need to step up and claim our namesake; they need to assure us they understand how much we cherish our extraordinarily rare place in this world. I hope they are eager and yearning to make it emphatically clear that they revere and treasure the continuity of what makes Greenbelt great!”

Let’s keep our 80th green.
Paul Downs
President, Committee to Save the Green Belt



Male and female mallards check out the completion of the excavation of the forebay at the lake.

PHOTO BY GLORIA BROWN

Obituaries

Carol Ann Sauls



Carol Ann Sauls

Former Greenbelter, Carol Ann Sauls, 78, died on December 17, 2016, at the Villa Rosa Nursing and Rehabilitation Center, Bowie, from breast cancer and more generally a disaffected system of health care.

Born in Albany, N.Y., to Hilda Mary Winkler and Charles August Orleans, the family moved to Washington, D.C., in 1939, where Carol’s father obtained work as a graphotype machine operator in

the Treasury Department. During the war, her father served in the Merchant Marines; her mother worked in the Veterans Administration. Mother and daughter moved to Greenbelt. After the war her father joined them and then a brother was born. Carol was among the many children who grew up and flourished in the young town.

In 1961 she married John Norwood “Buzzie” Sauls, also of Greenbelt. They lived for some time in an apartment on Parkway before buying into a new subdivision in Lanham.

Mrs. Sauls worked for many years in the recreation department of the Maryland-National Capital Park and Planning Commission, retiring in 1988. She was predeceased by Buzzie in 1991.

Mrs. Sauls is survived by her brother Billy, several cousins, a sister-in-law and many friends.

A service of remembrance will be held at the Greenbelt Community Church on Saturday, February 11 at 11 a.m. A later inurnment is planned at the Greenbelt Cemetery.

William Orleans



Condolences to the family and friends of former Greenbelter Carol Ann Sauls, who died on December 17, 2016.

Congratulations to Jill Barracato of the Greenbelt Children’s Center, who has earned Management Professional Certification and Child and Adult Care Food Policy (CACFP) Child Nutrition Professional Certification from the National CACFP Sponsors Association. The certification is a special designation for those in the CACFP profession committed to continually learning best practices and keeping up with changing trends in the field by attending additional training and workshops.

Congratulations to Dr. J. Vanderlei Martins, professor of physics at University of Maryland, Baltimore County, and Greenbelt resident, for recently publishing a fascinating article describing the revolution in space exploration being affected by hundreds of small satellites, some smaller than a shoebox. It is published in The Conversation, a general social media outlet. The link to his article is theconversation.com/smallsat-revolution-tiny-satellites-poised-to-make-big-contributions-to-essential-science-71440.

Please share your news for the next Our Neighbors column by sending complete details on your news to editor@greenbeltnewsreview.com.



Obituaries

The News Review publishes obituaries of Greenbelt residents, past or present.

You write it or we will if you prefer. We try to include information about participation in various activities and organizations, where the person lived and something about the family. A photograph and service information should be included. There is no charge.

Greenbelt Community Church

UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

1 Hillside (at Crescent Road)
Phone: 301-474-6171 mornings
www.greenbeltcommunitychurch.org

Sunday Worship
10:15 a.m.

Rev. Glennyce Grindstaff, Pastor

Mishkan Torah Congregation

10 Ridge Road, Greenbelt, MD 20770
Rabbi Jonathan Cohen Cantor Phil Greenfield

Friday evening services 8:00 PM, except first Friday of the month, when children's service begins at 7:30 PM

Saturday morning services at 9:30 AM.
Children's Education, Adult Education, Social Action, etc.

For further information call 301 474-4223 www.mishkantorah.org
Conservative and Reconstructionist

Paint Branch Unitarian Universalist Church

3215 Powder Mill Road, Adelphi
Phone: 301-937-3666 www.pbuuc.org

Welcomes you to our open, nurturing community

February 5 10 a.m.

"Membership: Staying Connected at Paint Branch and in the World"

Guest speaker Rev. Judith Morris; with Carla Miller, DMRE; and Beth Charbonneau, Worship Associate

Rev. Judy Morris, a Retired Unitarian Universalist Minister and current member at Paint Branch Unitarian Universalist Church will share thoughts about membership and its meaning for us as a community and as citizens.

Mowatt Memorial United Methodist Church

40 Ridge Road, Greenbelt

Open hearts, Open minds, Open doors
www.greenbeltumc.org 301-474-9410

Rev. Fay Lundin, Pastor

Worship Service 10 a.m.
Live in the Light of Eternity

ST. HUGH OF GRENOBLE CATHOLIC CHURCH

135 Crescent Road, Greenbelt, MD 20770
301-474-4322

Mass Schedule:
Sunday 8:00, 9:30, 11:00 a.m.
Saturday 9:00 a.m., 5:00 p.m.
Daily Mass: 7:15 a.m.
Sacrament of Penance: Saturday 3:30-4:30 p.m.

Pastor: Rev. Walter J. Tappe

GREENBELT BAPTIST CHURCH

Come worship God with us!

Sunday School 9-45AM
Worship Service 11:00AM

101 Greenhill Road, Greenbelt, MD 20770
(301) 474-4212 www.greenbeltbaptist.org

At the Library

The storytime schedule is slightly modified for the week of February 6 to 12, to accommodate the special Black History Month event, Black History Live with Culture Queen!, on Wednesday, February 8 at 11:15 a.m.

Ready 2 Read Storytimes. Tuesday, February 7, ages 3 to 5, 7 p.m., limit 20 people. Wednesday, February 8, ages 3 to 5, 10:15 a.m., limit 20 people; Thursday, February 9, ages newborn to 2, 10:15 and 11:15 a.m., limit 15 babies with parent(s)/caregiver(s); ages 2 to 3, 4:15 p.m., limit 20 people.

African History & Culture Lecture Series. Tuesday, February 7, 7 p.m. Death or Liberty: The Battle Against Slavery in the Western Hemisphere will be the next session in this audiovisual lecture series presented by historian C.R. Gibbs. Other sessions will be presented in commemoration of Black History Month on Tuesday evenings through March 7.

Black History Live with Culture Queen! Wednesday, February 8, 11:15 a.m. Black history is world history and Culture Queen sure knows how to make it fantastically fun. Join this award-winning teaching artist as she engages your royal children in motivating music, marvelous movement and super storytelling activities inspired by the Kings and Queens of Black History.

Great Rain Barrel Kick-Off Saturday

The Department of Public Works, along with the Citizens to Conserve and Restore Indian Creek and the Alice Ferguson Foundation Trash Free Potomac Watershed Initiative, is hosting a Water Quality and Development Workshop on Saturday, February 4 from 2 to 3:30 p.m. at the Community Center, Room 202. Learn about how rain barrels can help improve water quality and maybe save money. Also learn about water quality, development and the importance of protecting streams. For more information on the workshop contact Connor Roessler at croessler@greenbeltmd.gov. To learn about purchasing a rain barrel, contact Erin Josephitis at ejosephitis@greenbeltmd.gov or go to the calendar page on the city website (greenbeltmd.gov). The last opportunity to order will be March 18.

An installation demonstration and rain barrel pick up will be Saturday, April 1 from 9 a.m. to noon at the Plumbers & Gasfitters Training Facility, 5000 Forbes Boulevard, Lanham. See a rain barrel installed and apply for a rain check rebate. After rebate, the only cost is for the gutter attachment.

Holy Cross Thrift Store

Every Thursday
10am – 4pm

Good, clean clothes for women, men and children!
Shoes, jewelry, books, etc.

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Greenbelt, Md. 301-345-5111



City Information

GREENBELT CITY COUNCIL- SPECIAL MEETING
Municipal Building, February 6, 2017 – 7:00 p.m.

ORGANIZATION
Call to Order
Roll Call
Approval of Agenda

OTHER BUSINESS
-Executive Session

MEETINGS
NOTE: This is a preliminary agenda, subject to change. Regular Council meetings are open to the public, and all interested citizens are invited to attend. If special accommodations are required for any disabled person, please call 301-474-8000 no later than 10am on the meeting day. Deaf individuals are advised to use MD RELAY at 711 or e-mail cmurray@greenbeltmd.gov to reach the City Clerk.

OFFICIAL NOTICE

In accordance with Section 3-305(b)(1) and (8) of the General Provisions Article of the Annotated Code of the Public General Laws of Maryland, an Executive Session of the Greenbelt City Council will be held on Monday, February 6, 2017, at 7:15 p.m. in the Library of the Municipal Building.

The purpose of this meeting will be to discuss: 1) a personnel matter (reassignment of staff during the City Manager transition); and 2) potential litigation.

EMPLOYEE RELATIONS BOARD IS LOOKING FOR NEW MEMBERS!

Several vacancies exist on the Employee Relations Board. If you are interested, please submit an application available on the City's website at www.greenbeltmd.gov/index.aspx?NID=144, or contact Cindy Murray, City Clerk at cmurray@greenbeltmd.gov or 301-474-8000.

Human Resource or Legal Experience is preferred, but not required.

VACANCIES ON BOARDS & COMMITTEES

Volunteer to serve on City Council Advisory Groups. There are currently vacancies on: Arts Advisory Board, Employee Relations Board, Forest Preserve Advisory Board, Greenbelt Advisory Committee on Environmental Sustainability, Park and Recreation Advisory Board and Youth Advisory Committee.

For information on how to apply contact 301-474-8000.




ARTFUL AFTERNOON
Sunday, February 5
Greenbelt Community Ctr.
15 Crescent Road

1-3pm: craft workshop – make a mixed media wreath with artist Karla Lawrence. Materials provided, but bring any embellishments you'd like to include.

3pm: Greenbelt's own Beech Tree Puppets performs "The Hollow Stump". Seven very different animals seek shelter from the winter cold and snow. Adapted from the popular folktale The Mitten, this story celebrates community as the animals learn to share one space.

1-4pm: studio open house and sale with the Community Center's Artists in Residence. Beautiful and affordable paintings, prints, fiber arts, ceramics, funky jewelry, notecards and more!

1-4pm: visit the art gallery and the Greenbelt Museum exhibit room.



GREAT RAIN BARREL KICK-OFF
Saturday, February 4 from 2-3:30pm
Greenbelt Community Center
15 Crescent Road

Come learn about how rain barrels can help improve water quality and maybe save you money. Also learn about water quality, development and the importance of protecting streams. Order your rain barrel for only \$75 which is eligible for a rebate! Barrels may be ordered until March 18. You can order your rain barrel at www.rainbarrelprogram.org/greenbelt

For more information contact
Erin Josephitis at
ejosephitis@greenbeltmd.gov

MEETINGS FOR WEEK OF FEBRUARY 6-10

Monday, February 6 at 7:00pm, **SPECIAL COUNCIL MEETING** at the Municipal Building, 25 Crescent Road.

Monday, February 6 immediately following Special Council Meeting, **EXECUTIVE SESSION** (see Official Notice).

Monday, February 6 at 8:00pm, **COUNCIL WORK SESSION re: City Manager Update**, at the Municipal Building, 25 Crescent Road. *Live on Verizon 21, Comcast 71 and streaming at www.greenbeltmd.gov/municipaltv.*

Tuesday, February 7 at 7:00pm, **PUBLIC SAFETY ADVISORY COMMITTEE** at the Community Center, 15 Crescent Road. *On the agenda: Security Camera Referral.*

Tuesday, February 7 at 7:00pm, **ADVISORY COMMITTEE ON TREES** at the Public Works Facility, 555 Crescent Road. *On the agenda: Lakecrest Drive - Replacement trees for removed Bradford Pears and Tree Master Plan - Discussion with Davey Resource Group representative*

Tuesday, February 7 at 7:00pm, **ARTS ADVISORY BOARD** at the Community Center, 15 Crescent Road. *On the agenda: Review of applications from Greenbelt community organizations seeking in-kind support from the city in fiscal year 2018 as official Recognition Groups and A discussion of a petition from the Greenbelt Concert Band to the Greenbelt City Council requesting an exemption from city operating grant fundraising requirements*

Wednesday, February 8 at 7:30pm, **ADVISORY PLANNING BOARD** at Community Center, 15 Crescent Road. *On the Agenda: Detailed Site Plan (DSP) – Greenbelt Station North Core/ Metro Parking Redevelopment, Bike Infrastructure Capital Planning and Update on planning projects*

Wednesday, February 8 at 7:30pm, **ZERO WASTE CIRCLE** at Public Works, 555 Crescent Road. *On the Agenda: Discussion on compost pilot study at New Deal Café, Update on Bag Bill Legislation and Update on other legislation*

Wednesday, February 8 at 8:00, **COUNCIL WORK SESSION w/Friends of the Greenbelt Theatre** at the Community Center, 15 Crescent Road.

Detailed agendas are posted on www.greenbeltmd.gov. This schedule is subject to change. For confirmation that a meeting is being held call 301-474-8000.

GREENBELT SENIOR MOBILITY SURVEY

The City of Greenbelt is conducting a study that will help senior and residents with disabilities live longer in their homes by removing barrier to mobility and improving transportation options. Please complete the survey and help us identify key areas where these populations are underserved. The survey is available at

English: <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/GreenbeltSeniorSurvey>
Spanish: <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/SpanishSrTransp>

The survey will be available until February 10th. If you do not have access to the electronic version, you may pick up a paper version at the Greenbelt Community Center, 15 Crescent Road; the Greenbelt Municipal Building, 25 Crescent Road on the second floor; or on the Greenbelt Connection Bus.

Paper surveys can be returned to: SURVEY at the Greenbelt Assistance in Living (GAIL) Program, Municipal Building, 25 Crescent Rd., Greenbelt, MD 20770.

Contact Christal Batey at GAIL with questions about this survey, 240-542-2012 or email cbatey@greenbeltmd.gov.

COOKING MATTERS
Presented by the Capital Area Food Bank
Tuesdays, February 7-March 14, 2:30-4:30pm
Greenbelt Community Center, 15 Crescent Road

This class is free to those meeting a low income requirement. Includes free weekly bags of groceries to make the recipes at home.

Please contact Christal Batey at 301-474-8000 or cbatey@greenbeltmd.gov for information/registration.

Request for Proposals
Audio-Visual-Presentation and Broadcast System in the Greenbelt Municipal Building and the Greenbelt Community Center

The City of Greenbelt, Maryland, requests sealed proposals from qualified audio-visual system integrators to furnish, install and configure new audio-visual equipment in the City's Council Chambers and Community Center to support the production, live broadcast and playback of Council and other meetings, as more fully described in the Request for Proposals (RFP) documents available at www.greenbeltmd.gov/studio

A mandatory pre-proposal meeting will be held on **Thursday, February 23** at 10:00a.m. in the Council Chambers, Greenbelt Municipal Building, 25 Crescent Road, Greenbelt, Maryland 20770.

Deadline for proposals is Wednesday, **March 15** at 4:30p.m.
More Info: Beverly Palau, 240-542-2026.

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In fact, we have a broad range of medical and surgical services that also include:

- + Cardiology Services and Outpatient Vascular Studies
- + Center for Wound Healing and Hyperbaric Medicine
- + Comprehensive Orthopedic Services
- + Doctors Community Breast Center
- + Doctors Community Rehabilitation and Patient Care Center (transitional care)
- + Doctors Community Surgical Associates
- + Doctors Regional Cancer Center
- + Emergency Department (24/7)
- + Imaging Services
- + Infusion Center
- + Primary Care Services (Bowie, District Heights, Greenbelt, Landover Hills, Lanham, Laurel and Riverdale)
- + Sleep Center
- + Vascular Health Program

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Lanham, Maryland 20706
DCHweb.org

STARS continued from page 1

Arts, a partnership between the PTA and the community arts education nonprofit GAVA (Greenbelt Association for the Visual Arts), with a special appropriation grant from county Councilmember Todd Turner. The Family Fund brings local artists into the school for residencies with resources from the PTA, grants and

donations. Residencies consist of performances and workshops that integrate the arts into the curriculum to enhance learning experiences. To make a tax-deductible donation to the GES Family Fund for the Arts, send a check made out to GAVA (with GES Family Fund on the memo line) to 129 Northway, Greenbelt, MD 20770.



PHOTO BY INGRID COWAN HASS

Students in Lindsey Volk's second grade class learn about stars through dance and movement with Angella Foster of the alight dance theater.

Magnolia Robotics Team Takes Honors in Westminster



PHOTO COURTESY OF MELISSA PINKNEY

Magnolia Elementary School Robotics Club

On January 28, the Magnolia Elementary School Robotics team competed at St. John Catholic Middle School in Westminster, Maryland. This group of Magnolia students are a first year team but at the competition they displayed true excellence. The team earned two awards, receiving the “Best Dressed” award in honor of a former robotics student as well as the “Core Values Award.” The team worked very hard from

September to January in preparation for this competition. Their teacher, Melissa Pinkney said, “The students exemplified extraordinary Mustang pride this weekend!” The team consisted of Muni-rah Abdurrahman, Ilyas Mushi, Natalie Chanthavong, Katrina Lu, Michael Egharevba, Moon Lee, Taylor Cannon, Alexys Slifer, Kimiyah Barndhart, Masoma Ngupkam and Lee Lewis.

Red Cross Needs Blood Donations

The Red Cross issued an emergency call for blood and platelet donations during a severe winter blood shortage. Blood donations are needed now to prevent delays in care for patients. Hectic holiday schedules for many regular blood donors contributed to about 37,000 fewer donations in November and December than what was needed. Currently, blood and platelet donations are being distributed to hospitals faster than they are coming in. To help, schedule an appointment to donate by using the free Blood Donor App, visiting redcrossblood.org or calling 1-800-RED CROSS (1-800-733-2767). There will be blood drives in College Park on Monday, February 13 from 1:30 to 7 p.m. at the Knights of Columbus Prince George’s Council, 9450 Cherry Hill Road, and on Tuesday, February 14 from 1 to 6:30 p.m. at the Moose College Park Lodge 453, 3700 Metzerott Road. The next blood drive at the Community Center will be held on Friday, February 17 from 12:30 to 6 p.m. in the Multipurpose Room.

Slave Narratives Brought To Life

The Clarice at UMD will present Voices in the Dark, a stage production celebrating Black History on Friday, February 3 at 2 and 7 p.m. at the Kay Theater. There is a fee. In 1936, 70 years after the legal end of slavery in the United States, President Franklin Delano Roosevelt approved a historical research project commissioned by the Library of Congress. The goal of this enormous project was to locate and interview African Americans who had been born into slavery during the early to mid-1800s. More than 2,300 former slaves – survivors of one of this country's darkest periods – were interviewed. Their stories became what are now known as the WPA Slave Narratives. Several of these incredible stories are brought to life in the original stage production Voices in the Dark, written, produced and directed by Darrell Godfrey.

Raiders Trounce Panthers

Juston Bailey (22) of the Roosevelt Raiders varsity basketball team goes for a lay-up against a Parkdale Panther defender in the January 27 game. The Raiders opened up a massive lead right from the beginning of the game, scoring nearly 20 points before Parkdale scored its first basket. The Raiders never let the Panthers get close, with the final score 67-50.



PHOTO BY WILLIAM CORNETT

Raiders take on the Panthers on January 27.

Greenbelt’s Concerned Women Write Postcards to Congress

by Lesley Kash

The Concerned Women of Greenbelt wrote scores of postcards to Congress at the Community Church on Saturday afternoon, January 28. Since the election of President Donald Trump, these women are concerned about numerous White House pronouncements and actions which they believe will harm the United States democracy and inhabitants. Participants discussed experiences and priorities, narrowing focus to two main areas: health insurance and civil liberties. Splitting into two working groups, they explored possible alliances, resources and activism. The health insurance group detailed the advantages of Medicare, the Affordable Care Act and single payer systems in several other countries. Other health insurance options in the United States were not deemed to be

available or adequate. Suggestions were made for further research, and consultation with health care and insurance professionals. Civil liberties were categorized into several areas of priority: freedom of the press, freedom of reproductive choice, and the freedom and safety of immigrants and minorities. Several participants recommended organizations to reach out to, because they are already advocating for civil liberties and monitoring hate crimes. For example, the Southern Poverty Law Center has been tracking hate groups since the era of the civil rights marches and notes that a chapter of the Ku Klux Klan is active in nearby Glen Burnie, according to organizer Rachel Turkiewicz Alexander.

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MCLAUGHLIN continued from page 1

“The professional manager is given formal authority, through the municipal charter, to run day-to-day operations.” According to former City Manager Jim Giese, “A city manager’s job is to provide good service to the citizens and respond to citizens’ concerns that are represented through the city council.”

Longevity of Service

McLaughlin has several qualities that helped maintain a system that relies heavily on the manager and his interpersonal skills. Many of those skills were learned though his various prior positions with the city, including assistant city manager, deputy city manager and city treasurer. McLaughlin was appointed city manager in July of 1996 after Dan Hobbs left the position. In a city where McLaughlin has been only the sixth city manager in 80 years, there were some big and long-lasting shoes to fill. His predecessor, Hobbs, was only in Greenbelt for five years, but the fourth city manager, and the man who hired McLaughlin initially, was Giese, the city manager for 29 years. Giese said about McLaughlin, “The fact that he has been here so long is due in part to Greenbelt,” referring to the stable staff, the strong sense of community and the well-established organizational structure of the city.

“He takes his time to think about the issue and listen to people.”
- David Moran, assistant city manager

Staff Relations

As the city manager McLaughlin also managed the staff of the city. “He acted as a buffer sometimes between the employees and the council,” said Councilmember Judith “J” Davis, a former mayor and the current mayor pro tem. Davis explained there were few grievances by city employees during his tenure and credits McLaughlin with that amicable relationship. “Because he wanted to be fair and equitable to everybody he may have given people more chances than another city manager might have.” Davis also explained that some of the few times she ever saw McLaughlin angry were when such human resources issues were not dealt with privately and professionally.

When talking about how he managed staff, his colleagues use terms like “professional,” “gentlemanly,” “collaborative,” “a good listener,” and as Assistant City Manager David Moran remarked, “He’s a great leader, a great mentor and he’s a friend. That says a lot, I think.”

Moran started out with an office next to McLaughlin and spoke about the mentoring McLaughlin generously offered. When McLaughlin became city manager, the transition was seamless. Moran observed that, “We’d been doing this for so long, the job didn’t change, the players just took on different titles.”

Listening

Another strength mentioned frequently in reminiscences is McLaughlin’s skill as a listener. As Moran notes, “He takes his time to think about the issue and listen to people. He is very

collaborative. He brings people together ... to get as much input and feedback, whatever is most important for the project. That’s part of successful leadership, making sure you have the right people and the right staff to get quality solutions to your problems.”

In overseeing so many employees, McLaughlin had to rely on department heads and allow the latitude and freedom for people to do their jobs with a degree of autonomy and trust. Kathleen Gallagher was the city clerk for eight years and saw McLaughlin as a boss. In her subsequent role as a News Review journalist covering council, she also saw him from her perspective as a reporter. Gallagher commented that “He doesn’t micromanage, lets people take the lead and has a wonderful sense of humor. He’s laid back but doesn’t let things get out of control. He is really good at setting a good tone.”

City Council

Being a good listener and collaborator were also key to his relationship with city council. Gallagher explains that “In a council and city manager form of government, it is the job of the city manager to run the city. The council is basically about policy and legislation. The city manager is a very strong position and I think the council has really respected that. They understand what Mike’s job is and it has worked out well.” It was important within this system for McLaughlin to hear council’s needs, concerns and desires and, from his knowledge and experience of running the daily services of the city, to give council the data they needed to make decisions. Gallagher noted that “Mike has an incredible historical memory and a grasp of every bit of legislation that has passed in the city since he started here. Things tend to repeat, so having that background is a really positive thing.”

Davis has been a councilmember since 1993 and was mayor from 1997 to 2013. She commented, “Working with him for 16 years, I felt he was willing to make sure I had everything necessary to do a good job and I feel like that is what he does for council.” Davis and McLaughlin achieved their positions as manager and mayor around the same time. “He was very open. I never felt that it was me versus him. We grew into a good working relationship that helped me, helped him and I think helped the city.”

Davis described McLaughlin further by saying “He is not verbose. He is precise, concise but lays everything out for you. He doesn’t try to change the council’s direction. He just gives you all the reasons the council should consider in setting a direction.” McLaughlin would offer diplomatic alternatives, explained Davis. “He will say ‘Well we can’t do that, but we can do this.’ His alternative suggestions were usually the winners that we could all buy into.”

When talking about his retirement, Davis said, “He’s always been in the background. He’s always been sitting to the side during council meetings. When called on he will give his expert advice but stays in the background. I’m going to find it very hard to look over and not see Mike. Councils come and go

but you need a really good person at the helm to make sure the city continues to function well.”

Day to Day

Jordan, councilmember since 2009 and mayor since 2013, explained that the city manager job can be consuming “It’s not a 40-hour-a-week job. It’s a ‘what it takes to get the job done’ job. So, working long weekends, working into the night, taking calls at 2 or 3 in the morning. These are things he has lived with for such a long time.”

The city manager is responsible for city services. As Moran put it, “He manages the city well. Citizens are going to take note if the city is not well run and if services aren’t getting delivered. They are going to be the first people to communicate that. When you are doing a good job as the city manager it shows in service delivery and the community is going to respond.”

A big part of McLaughlin’s job is to make hard decisions daily. Celia Craze, the Greenbelt director of planning and community development, said, “He’s not afraid to make tough decisions. Even if you didn’t agree with his decision you knew it was a thoughtful decision and one made in the best interests of the city. So, it was hard to argue with him.”

Financial Crisis

One of the main jobs of the city manager’s office is to design the city budget. The council approves it, but it is ultimately the manager’s budget. Greenbelt has won the Government Finance Officers Association distinguished budget award for their budget presentation 28 times since the program started in 1984, including every year since 1990. The budget includes an opening statement by the city manager explaining the budget and summarizing the very large document. McLaughlin’s first budget statement was written in 1998 but he worked on the budgets throughout his time in the manager’s office because of his talent with numbers and finance. As Davis put it, “Budget time is when he really shines.”

Jim Sterling, director of Public Works, talked about his regular budget meetings with McLaughlin. “After spending so many years eye-balling a budget, he knows it line item by line item. His attention to detail has always been great. When we meet, we go through every line item and if you had a line item that went up or down you better be in a position to explain why.”

One of the big challenges that McLaughlin did face in his tenure was the financial crisis that became severe in 2008 and 2009. In the 2011 budget following a real estate tax reassessment by the state, which significantly affected the city’s property tax revenues, McLaughlin and the council managed to save the employees of the city from furloughs, wage cuts or layoffs through a mix of refinancing of debt, benefit adjustments, attrition and some



Michael McLaughlin and his family, photo taken in 1992.

PHOTO COURTESY CITY OF GREENBELT

employees. They are his family as much as we are.”

McLaughlin said about those budgets, “On an annual basis, it was always, ‘Can we meet what we need to do?’ And we always found a way.”

Capital Projects

The entire period during which McLaughlin worked for the city was one of growth both before and during his time as city manager. Some of the projects McLaughlin was involved with include the theater renovation, a new public works building, expansion of Greenbelt East and Greenbelt West and the Community Center (for which he was the project manager).

His direct involvement was most evident in the Community Center, which Craze said, “I think in magnitude, it is the biggest capital project the city has ever done, not in dollars, but it was huge. There were so many layers involved in it.” Giese said about the Community Center, “Many contributed. Mike put the thing through on the administrative side. He was the glue that held the whole project together.”

On many of the other projects he helped with financial procurement as well as keeping an overall eye on the project. There were project managers whom he oversaw and advised as issues arose. As Moran explained, McLaughlin had many hats. He was “making sure it got done, keeping it going, finding additional resources.”

Davis said, “If you wanted a model of what a city manager should be like, it is Mike McLaughlin.” She also commented, “None of us are indispensable and he’s not indispensable, but we are not going to forget what he did.”

His plans for retirement are to ride his bike, go to spring training in Sarasota, volunteer, care for his three-month-old granddaughter and spend more time with his family but he has no plans to leave Greenbelt.

As Jim Craze, a friend and the former Greenbelt police chief said, “He set the bar very high. He is going to be a tough act to follow. Not many bosses become your friend.”

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Police Blotter

Based on information released by the Greenbelt Police Department, www.greenbeltmd.gov/police
Dates and times are those when police were first contacted about incidents.

Robbery
January 24, 2:25 a.m., 7600 block Greenbelt Road. A cashier at the CVS Pharmacy reported that a man entered the store wearing a ski mask, armed with a handgun and announced a robbery. He fled after obtaining money, possibly in a vehicle described as a black SUV.

Assault
January 21, 12:55 p.m., Cherrywood Lane near Breezewood Drive. A vehicle described as a silver SUV pulled alongside a man who was jogging, when someone lowered the passenger window and pointed what looked like the muzzle of a gun at him. No shots were fired.

January 25, 4 p.m., 9100 block Edmonston Road. A 14-year-old was charged on a juvenile petition for second degree assault after she allegedly punched the mother of another juvenile after she refused to let her daughter fight. The woman was not injured.

Theft
January 19, 5:31 p.m., 100 block Westway. Two bicycles were taken from a storage room. They are described as mountain bikes, one a blue Giant and the other a black Schwinn.

January 24, 12:04 p.m., 5900 block Greenbelt Road. An unattended laptop was taken at Dunkin' Donuts.

Fraud
January 19, 11:43 a.m., 6200 block Greenbelt Road. A man approached a woman using the drive-through ATM at Capital One Bank on November 11 at 7 p.m. and asked her to deposit a check into her account and give him the money. She said she felt intimidated and completed the transaction and gave him the money. The check was fraudulent.

Suspicious Person
January 22, 7:10 p.m., 7700 block Lakecrest Drive. A woman reported that a man knocked on her front door and asked for someone who did not live there. As she began to close the door he attempted to push it open. The woman was able to shut and lock the door and call the police.

False Report
January 21, 4:55 a.m., 9100 block Edmonston Road. A man reported being the victim of a carjacking and then stated that his vehicle had actually been towed and that he gave false information because he was angry. Charges are pending.

Disorderly Conduct
January 18, 7:25 p.m., 7600 block Greenbelt Road. A 30-year-old nonresident was arrested and charged with disorderly conduct after he allegedly confronted customers at Exxon Gas, disrupting normal business and causing a group of onlookers to gather. He was released on citation pending trial.

Multiple Charges
January 21, 9:15 a.m., 7500 block Greenbelt Road. A 47-year-old man was arrested and charged with possession of paraphernalia and theft after he was stopped as a shoplifting suspect and was found to be in possession of a pipe commonly used to ingest cocaine. The stolen merchandise was also recovered and he was released on citation pending trial.

January 22, 3:55 p.m., 7500 block Greenbelt Road. A 46-year-old nonresident was arrested and charged with theft and trespass after officers responded to a report of a shoplifter fleeing Safeway. He was arrested and the merchandise recovered. Further investigation revealed he had previously been banned from the store by agents of the property. He was released on citation pending trial.

Burglary
January 23, 4:29 a.m., 5300 block Davis Point Lane. A man who was sleeping heard a banging noise and discovered the rear balcony door had been forced open and property was missing. A laptop computer, wallet, identification card and set of keys were taken. The card and keys were recovered later on the balcony. A witness observed a man leave the balcony and flee.

Vehicle Crime
One vehicle was stolen on January 20, a grey 2-door 2010 Mercedes Benz C43 with D.C. tags EB7100.

An attempt was made to steal a vehicle on Mandan Road near Ora Glen Drive, where the driver side door was forced open and the steering column and the ignition were tampered with.

Two vehicles were recovered. A 1999 Honda Civic reported stolen November 25 from the 9100 block Springhill Lane was recovered January 18 by the Montgomery County police in the 2000 block Gatewood Place in Silver Spring. A 2013 Kawasaki Ninja series motorcycle reported stolen by Prince George's County police was recovered January 20 in the 6200 block Breezewood Court.

Eleven thefts from autos were reported. Six handicap placards were taken January 24 after windows were broken, three in the 7500 block Mandan Road, two in the 7700 block Hanover Parkway and one in the 5900 block Cherrywood Terrace.

Four vehicles were entered in the 9000 block Breezewood Terrace after windows were broken out. CDs, two cell phones, a notebook type computer and a dashboard camera were taken.

The tailgate assembly of a truck was taken in the 6500 block Capitol Drive.

Five acts of vandalism occurred when windows were broken out in the 9100 block Edmonston Court, 7800 and 7900 blocks Mandan Road and 5900 block Cherrywood Terrace.

Handicap Placard Thefts Increase

There has been an increase in the number of handicap placards being stolen from vehicles parked in handicap-designated spaces as well as non-designated spaces. Usually windows are broken to gain access. Vehicles should be locked at all times and placards removed from view when not required for parking.

Call Greenbelt police at 301-474-7200 to report persons acting suspiciously, looking or possibly breaking into parked vehicles.



Snippets from the Past

GHI Members Gathered Sunday To Celebrate Mortgage Retirement

by Mary Lou Williamson

“This is a great day,” began James W. Smith, president of Greenbelt Homes, Inc., as he introduced the first number for the afternoon and the Greenbelt Combined Choir came forward to sing, “What Will the World Be Like tomorrow?”

About 400 GHI members, past members, staff, friends and well-wishers braved Sunday’s icy weather to join in the gala mortgage retirement celebration. They gathered in the plum and red auditorium of the Eleanor Roosevelt High School for a warm and informal hour or two to reminisce and just to enjoy the passing of a milestone in their history.

“We have now satisfied the financial obligations we took on . . . 25 years ago,” intoned Smith. But actual destruction of the mortgage, he added, had posed problems. As the major event of the gala, burning the mortgage would be dramatic. However, “the County Fire Marshall won’t let us have a fire in this beautiful auditorium,” Smith related “and we want the original mortgage preserved for posterity.” Instead, the planning committee decided on cooperative destruction of the housing cooperative’s mortgage. Smith called on Bruce Bowman, who had been a member of the board in 1952 and one of the original signers of that mortgage. Together they tore up a copy into large pieces, which were then passed on to the members. Soon every member who wished one had his or her own small piece of the mortgage to tear in half. Photographers recorded the action.”

From the Co-operator, February 2, 1978.

Campaign to Stop the Lakeside North Development Public Awareness Day

Saturday February 11, 2017, 10:00 AM to 3:00 PM

Greenbelt Fire Station at 125 Crescent Road

Council will discuss and possibly vote on the proposed Lakeside North Development at the Council meeting on Monday, February 13. Council has not responded to our June 6, 2016 petition asking them to oppose the development and any changes to the zoning of the land that would allow for its development.

The proposed development consists of a 25-story 400 unit luxury high rise apartment complex on 5 acres of forested land adjacent to the Lakeside North Apartments. This land is part of the original green belt and current zoning regulations require it to remain undeveloped. Therefore, the property is fully developed and needs to be rezoned to allow for this second development.

We will voice our opposition at the Council meeting on February 13

Come to our February 11 Public Awareness Day to Prepare

- (1) Get your free hand fan “STOP Lakeside North Development” or make your own sign
- (2) Get your free button “STOP Lakeside North Development”
- (3) Pick up information and updates about the proposed development.
- (4) Sign our petition

AND

Tell our councilmembers that you oppose the development

Emmett Jordan (ejordan@greenbeltmd.gov)
Edward Putens (eputens@greenbeltmd.gov)
Judith Davis (jdavis@greenbeltmd.gov)
Konrad Herling (kherling@greenbeltmd.gov)
Leta Mach (lmach@greenbeltmd.gov)
Rodney Roberts (rroberts@greenbeltmd.gov)
Silke Pope (spope@greenbeltmd.gov)

Send snail mail to 25 Crescent Road Greenbelt, MD 20770

Contact Brian or Donna Almquist for information at:
GreenbeltAdvocates.ESJ@gmail.com

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The Department is offering a reward of up to \$1,000 for information leading to the arrest and conviction of a suspect in any of the unsolved crimes reported in the blotter.

Call 1-866-411-TIPS.

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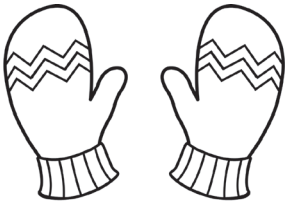
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80TH YEAR continued from page 1

generations of Greenbelters through today – the earliest of which are already gone. Delving into the existing archive (available online at greenbeltnewsreview.com) is a constant revelation of life in Greenbelt and how it has changed (and stayed the same). Check out the 50 years ago button that points to a different old paper every week. Search the archives for significant dates – every paper reveals something interesting, amusing or poignant. Over the next few months, the paper will be initiating a fundraising campaign to help defray the costs of these activities. The movie is an immediate expense but the archive is a long-term process that will likely cost around \$40,000 in current dollars and take five years to complete.

An estimated 30,000 pages need to be assessed and scanned either from microfilm or paper and indexed and managed for archiving. Even the current ‘born digital’ papers are subjected to the extraction and indexing process over and above their initial digital existence as PDFs. The end result will become part of the Library of Congress’s digital newspaper collection and the community will have access to that as well as GNR’s own online collection of easily downloaded and smaller PDF versions of the paper. The News Review is looking forward to enlisting the support of individuals and businesses in funding these initiatives. Watch for more information on how to help the paper achieve these objectives.



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**Your Greenbelt Specialists
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GMS Team Designs a Future Eco-city and Wins Awards

by Julie Depenbrock

Ten Greenbelt Middle School (GMS) students chose the city of Pripjat, Ukraine – site of the Chernobyl nuclear disaster – to redesign as an eco-friendly tourist attraction, winning Most Innovative Design of Infrastructure and Systems at this year’s Mid-Atlantic Future City competition.

Mid-Atlantic Regional Coordinator Kim Adams said, “Future City starts with a question – how can we make the world a better a place? To answer the question, sixth, seventh and eighth grade students imagine, research, design and build cities of the future that showcase their solution to a city-wide sustainability issue.”

This year, the theme was the Power of Public Space.

Students in the competition presented their solutions via a virtual city design, or SimCity, 1,500-word essay, scale model, project plan and presentation to judges at the January 21 competition.

From October to January, the Greenbelt team came into school an hour early, three days a week, to complete their project.

“We thought about what we don’t like about our city now and what we could do to improve it,” seventh-grader Samuel McGranahan said.

The GMS team renamed the city of Pripjat, “Misto Novoyi Nadiyi”, which, McGranahan said, means City of New Hope in Ukrainian.

McGranahan, along with fellow seventh-graders Anya Wilkinson and Harris Mancho, presented the city to judges.

Wilkinson said, “Everything had been building up to that point. When they called our city’s name during the awards ceremony, I was breathless because we thought we might not win



Greenbelt Middle School winners in the Future Cities contest: (left to right) 7th graders Harris Mancho, Samuel McGranahan and Anya Wilkinson, 6th grader Lynnette Hunt, teacher Kendal Brauer

anything, because this is our first year.”

The group’s city had three zones: commercial, residential and industrial. They took old places –like the Pripjat amphitheater and the Chernobyl power plant – and converted them. The amphitheater was restored and the power plant converted into a university.

Wilkinson researched how to reduce radiation from the nuclear disaster. She found her solution in sunflowers, which would take in radiation from the soil and die.

“The team sectioned off unsalvageable parts of the city in domes to contain the radiation,” McGranahan said. The futuristic, eco-city featured a hydroelectric power plant, a wind field, solar panels and pedestrian walkways.

GMS students, who placed in the top 10, agreed they would like to compete another year.

“I’m hoping the new sixth graders will join,” Mancho said. “I might want to join to help.

Other people might want a chance to present.”

McGranahan said, “I really do want to do this next year. This was our first year doing it, and we saw from some of the other teams that have been doing it for a while what’s possible. I think we were pretty inspired to add more next year ... get a little more creative.”

The team’s mentor, Kendal Brauer, has taught Spanish at GMS for the past five years. This year, she was given the Outstanding Educator Award for the Mid-Atlantic competition.

Brauer thought she was awarded, in part, because she brought the competition to Greenbelt and because she was not a typical mentor.

“They’re supposed to have an engineer,” she said.

Julie Depenbrock is a University of Maryland graduate student in journalism writing for the News Review.

Local Rotary Makes Annual School Dictionary Donation

by Shari Gant



Rotary members Louis Pope and David Arias speak of the importance of using dictionaries to third graders at Magnolia Elementary School.

On Tuesday, January 17, the Greenbelt Rotary Club donated approximately 75 dictionaries to third graders at Magnolia Elementary School. This annual tradition is cherished by both teachers and students.

Rotary Club members Louis Pope and David Arias presented the dictionaries to the students.

They shared the many uses for and the importance of dictionaries. One of the students’ favorite features is identifying the world’s longest word. Additionally, students in grade 4 surprised Pope and Arias in sharing how they have continued to use their dictionaries from the previous year.

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A red-shouldered hawk looks for its prey at Buddy Attick Park.



PHOTO BY GLORIA A. BROWN

LOVE NOTES

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